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CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR - 1945.

To/
The Chairman and Members of the
Clacton Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District during 1945.

The health of the District has again been satisfactory. Infectious Disease has been limited to 22 cases, and these were sporadic in character. No epidemics occurred.

The crude death rate is 17.94 and the birth rate is 14.79. There have been no maternal deaths during 1945. The Infantile death rate is 50.9, but for legitimate births only the figure is 44.2.

The Public Health staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Supt., one Additional Sanitary Inspector, one Health Visitor, and two Female Clerks.

The estimated population for 1945, as supplied by the Registrar General, is 14,600, as compared with 23,410, the corresponding figure for 1938.

The number of inhabited houses and rateable value is given below :-

Number of inhabited houses end of 1945	7,228
Rateable Value	£244,675
Sum represented by a penny rate	£875

GENERAL STATISTICS

	Total	Male	Female	
Live Births:-				
Legitimate	181	102	79	
Illegitimate	35	20	15	
Birth rate per 1,000 population				14.79
Stillbirths:-	2	1	1	
Rate per 1,000 total births				9.2
Deaths:-	262	129	133	
Death rate per 1,000 population				17.94
Puerperal Deaths:-				
(1) Puerperal Sepsis			Nil	
(2) Other Puerperal Causes			Nil	
Rate per 1,000 Births				Nil

GENERAL STATISTICS (contd.).

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births	50.9
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	44.2
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	85.7
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1
Cancer Death rate	2.26
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death rate	0.34
Other Tuberculosis Death rate	Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	1 day	3 days	1 week	3 mths	6 mths	9 mths
Pneumonia				2		
Prematurity	1	1				
Accidental				1		1
Cardiac failure			1			
Other Causes	1	1	1		1	
	2	2	2	3	1	1

TABLE OF THE CAUSES OF DEATHS.
(Registrar General)

	Male	Female
Whooping Cough	-	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	1
Influenza	4	2
Cancer of Stomach	6	1
Cancer of Breast	-	2
Other forms of Cancer	13	17
Diabetes	2	-
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	7	15
Heart Disease	53	47
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	8
Bronchitis	6	8
Pneumonia	-	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	5	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	-
Other Digestive Diseases	4	1
Nephritis	2	-
Premature birth	1	2
Other Infantile Deaths	1	1
Suicide	-	4
Road Traffic Accidents	1	-
Other Violent Causes	4	1
All Other Causes	14	20
	129	133

AGES AT DEATH FROM ALL CAUSES.
(Local Registrar)

Under 1 year	11
1 and under 2 years	3
5 and under 15 years	2
15 and under 25 years	1
25 and under 45 years	8
45 and under 65 years	40
65 years and upwards	197
Total:	262

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1945.

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	6	-
Diphtheria	4	4	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	1	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	1
Chicken-Pox	3	-	-
Measles	4	-	-
Jaundice	1	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS 1945.

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	5	4	-	1	4	1	-	-

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1945 was :-

A. Pulmonary Tuberculosis:
(1) Male 32
(2) Female 25
57

B. Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis:
(1) Male 13
(2) Female 7
20

Total - 77

No action was required under the Tuberculosis Regulations 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

IMMUNISATION - DIPHTHERIA.

During the year, 173 children under 15 years of age were immunised, making a total of over 1,870 since inoculation was started.

At the end of 1945, it was estimated that about 65.7% of children under 5 years, and 64.3% of children between the ages of 5 and 15 had been immunised.

In this percentage, allowance has been made for the return of evacuees.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No new work under this heading has been carried out during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year 1945, the Clacton Water Department supplied 293,209,000 gallons of water, being an increase of 41,565,000 gallons over the output of the previous year. Increase equal to approximately 16½%.

The water was obtained from the following sources of supply :-

Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co.	194,667,000 gallons.
Great Bentley Pumping Station	98,542,000 gallons.
	293,209,000 gallons.

Throughout the whole of the year, the water supply of the area was satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Bacteriological examinations of the water leaving the Pumping Stations are made at least monthly. Precautionary treatment with Chlorine is made at pump suctions in wells, and water examined is treated water. In addition to examinations of water at source of supply, samples of water taken from consumers' premises in various parts of the District have been submitted frequently for bacteriological examination. The reports state that the water is of a high standard of bacterial purity, and the results obtained are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

There is no reason to consider the water likely to have plumbo-solvent action, and no action has been necessary in respect of any form of contamination although water receives precautionary Chlorine treatment.

In Clacton, 28 houses are supplied by standpipes; while in the Jaywick area, about 1,000 timber houses used mostly as a summer camp, also have standpipes.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No. of Infested Houses:	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	9
No. of Houses Disinfested:	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	9

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS (Contd.).

Methods employed :-

Stripping of skirtings, etc. where necessary, spraying with insecticide, fumigation with sulphur and other special fumigators. Steam disinfection of bedding.

WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Department during the year 1945 :-

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Special Visits	3,182
Special Visits re Salvage	283
Special Visits re Nuisances	797
Re-inspections	1,533
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	294
Piggery Inspections	124
Back Yard Inspections	195
Stable Inspections	14
Factory (Non-power) Inspections	12
Factory (Power) Inspections	36
Bakehouse (Non-power) Inspections	5
Bakehouse (Power) Inspections	47
Shops - Sanitary Accommodation - Inspections	20
Fish Friers' Premises Inspections	26
Air Raid Shelters - Surface - Inspections	69
Air Raid Shelters - Underground - Inspections	5
Hairdressers Premises Inspections	12
Licensed Victuallers' Conveniences Inspections	1
Cinemas Inspections	1
Camping Ground Inspections	51
Smoke Observations	2
Ice Cream Dealers Inspections	3
Rag Flock Act Inspections	3
Rag and Bone Dealers' Premises Inspections	1
Public Conveniences Inspections	480
Inspections re Vermin	14
Laundry Inspections	2
Visits re Cesspools	19
Visits re Water Supplies, Standpipes, etc.	45
Preliminary Notices served	253
Statutory Notices served	11
Improvements following Preliminary Notices	346
Improvements following Statutory Notices	16
Improvements without Notices	296
Total Improvements	658
Premises at which Nuisances abated	390

HOUSING ACT 1936

Re-inspections of Repairs, etc.	156
Repairs completed	12
Special Inspections re Timber (Flooring)	220
No. of houses inspected and recorded	6
Visits in connection with same	9
Special inspections re Flushing Tanks	16
Inspections re Roofing Material	2
Cottages demolished	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

8 Cases of Scarlet Fever investigated.
4 Cases of Diphtheria investigated.
3 Visits re Contacts.

25 Rooms, bedding, etc. disinfected.
6 Lots Bedding steam disinfected.
70 Library Books disinfected.

VERMIN, MOTHS, ETC.

20 Premises fumigated.
16 Lots Bedding, Carpets, etc. steam disinfected.
2 Wasps Nests destroyed.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS.

Cowshed Inspections	40
Dairy Inspections	112

8 Samples of Accredited Milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination. Of these, 3 samples proved to be unsatisfactory in as much as they gave positive B.Coli results.

10 Samples of Ordinary Milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination as to the general cleanliness and presence, or otherwise, of B.Coli results. 4 of these proved unsatisfactory.

9 Samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were submitted for examination. Of these, 4 samples failed to comply with the prescribed conditions.

13 Samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken during the year. Of these, 5 were unsatisfactory - 2 being insufficiently heat treated and 3, capped as Pasteurised, grossly insufficiently heat treated.

WATER ANALYSIS AND EXAMINATION

Samples taken -

11 from Great Bentley Pumping Station.
9 from Town Supply.
1 from Well.

All satisfactory.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

The following Visits were made :-

Butchers and Food Shops	182
Restaurants	43
Restaurants re Ice Cream	5

The following were found to be unfit for human food :-

Tins of Milk	208
" " Beans	177
" " Fish	147
" " Meat	115
" " Peas	24
" " Jam	9
" " Peaches	3
" " Soup	3

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (contd.).

Tins of Marmalade	4
Jars of Jam	11
Bottle of Pickles	1
Box of Fish	1
Cakes (Assorted)	1,000
Duck Eggs	202
Potatoes	7 lbs.
Sugar	2 lbs.
Tea	¼ lb.
Spaghetti	65 lbs.
Dates	56 lbs.
Oatmeal	7 lbs.
Macaroni	7 lbs.
Oranges	56 lbs.
Slab Cake	33 lbs.
Sweetbreads	4½ lbs.
Margarine	14 lbs.
Butter	4 lbs.
Bacon	45½ lbs.
Meat Trimmings	13 lbs.
Luncheon Meat	23½ lbs.
Sausages	84 lbs.
Beasts liver	20 lbs.
Beef	80 lbs.
Pork	20 lbs.
Pigs lungs	1

5 carcases of Pork for home consumption examined and found satisfactory.

10 carcases pork and offal X Pig Club inspected.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

95 Visits by Inspectors.
684 Visits by Operator.

Upon receipt of complaints, premises are visited, baits, poison, etc. laid, and all other necessary work done to assist in the extermination of Rats and Mice.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

Collection is made by rear loading mechanical vehicles and a horse wagon.

Disposal is by incineration and controlled tipping.

Total net cost of Collection	£2,607. 0. 4.
Total net cost of Disposal	£416.10.11.
Income from Trade Refuse amounted to	£101. 0. 0.
Income from sales of Salvaged Materials.	£929. 7. 6.
Income from sales of Waste Paper	£863.14. 2.
Refuse collected by the Council	2,853 tons
Refuse delivered by Military	257 tons
Total dealt with at Disposal Works	3,110 tons

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Total Births: 214 Male 118 Female 96

Stillbirths: 3 Male 1 Female 2

Notified by Medical Practitioners 117
Notified by Midwives 97

DOMICILARY

	Midwives	Maternity Nurses	Total
1. District Nurses	95	31	126
2. Independent Midwives	2	4	6
3. Private Trained Women	-	-	-

MATERNITY HOMES AND HOSPITALS

1. Ellisdene Nursing Home	84
2. St.Mary's Hospital, Colchester (Notified outside Area)	6
3. Heath Hospital, Tendring (Notified outside Area)	18
4. Old Mill House, Gt.Bentley (Notified outside Area)	9
5. Colchester Borough Maternity Home (Notified outside Area)	6
6. London Hospital (Notified outside Area)	1
7. Woodboro' Nursing Home	33

		No. on Register
1. Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics (Dr.'s Sessions)	542)	
2. Attendances at Ante-Natal Class (Midwives Sessions)	388)	270
3. Attendances at Post-Natal Clinics (Dr.'s Sessions)	27)	
4. No. of Visits (Ante-Natal) paid by Health Visitor	42	

HEALTH VISITS

1. No. of Visits to Children under 5 years - 1,377
2. No. of Visits to Children under 9 years as Infant Life Protection Visitor - 36. To Homes - 32.

ORTHOPAEDICS

26 Children receiving treatment made a total of 117 Visits.

ULTRA VIOLET RAY

No. under 5 years - 30.
No. of School Children - 35, making a total of 1,317 Visits during winter months 1945.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Expectant Mothers 13
Mothers 3
Children under 5 years 5

EYE CLINIC

43 Children under 5 years attended.
6 New cases were supplied with glasses.

INFANT CLINIC

100 Clacton Clinics were held, attendances of Children under 5 being 2,257
20 Holland Clinics were held, attendances of Children under 5 being 767

IMMUNISATION - DIPHTHERIA

158 Children under 5 years were immunised (2 injections).

FOOD AND MEDICINES

Cow and Gate Milk Food	4,019 packets	(1 lb.)
Ostermilk	423 packets	(1 lb.)
Trufood	1,174 tins	(1 lb.)
Colact	36 tins	(1 lb.)
Lactogal	234 tins	
Maternity Outfits	91	

Also, Oil and Malt, Virol, and Drugs were sold. In addition to the above, National Dried Milk, Vitamins, and Cod Liver Oil were distributed at the Clinics.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

(sd) J.RAMSBOTTOM

Medical Officer of Health.